

University budget. It is used to educate those students and so besides being an attraction for visitors and besides being an attraction for Nebraskans it is also utilized as an educational resource. For all those different reasons, for many others that could be cited, I ask your support for restoring the funding for Sheldon Art Gallery and continuing its operation recognizing the pending closing of the gallery if we aren't able to come up with the funding that we are talking about through this amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, there is that moment on the floor when we have run out of gas. Our energy to continue with the project at hand really has dissipated. And I probably sense along with Senator Wesely that we may be there as a body. That doesn't mean that we as individuals are and I, too, cannot let this moment pass without recognizing it, taking my chance in the batter's box and telling you that this is one cut that we shouldn't make.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Landis. (Gavel.) Let's listen to the speakers and hold our conversation down, please. Please. Senator Landis, thank you.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. I have been helpful in the general drive towards keeping our tax rates low. This I think would be the wasting of one of the state's finest assets. We rarely have in our possession as a state an asset as fine as the Sheldon Art Gallery is. I hope that we would think it unthinkable to close this building and to move into some temporary housing because we would have a sense of what a quality piece of architecture we now use in this building. It is not just a series of rooms. It is not just an opportunity to get together and debate bills. It is a great pleasure, a great in a sense a kind of obligation imposed because of the beauty of the building on each of us as individuals. We rise to the occasion here by having a separate appropriation for the maintenance of what we all understand to be a commonly held asset of the first quality. That is the case with the Sheldon Art Gallery. It is a commonly held state asset of the first quality and it is one that is shared by all of us. I hope this doesn't get lost in that sort of Lincoln-Omaha-outstate wrangling that we all too often engage in. If we cannot sense our communal